



HANNAH'S ADVENTURES IN MISSIONS

Abbreviated Update

- Honduran holidays
- Girls group started
- Natural disasters all over the world, people here lost their homes
- Joined a soccer team, but I sprained my ankle
- We are very busy, and grateful for what that means



Holidays!

The first week of September, we celebrated Dia del Niño, the Day of the Child. Team DESEO put a lot of work into a superhero skit followed by a clown act which we did at all 15 of the schools where we teach. The second week of September, we celebrated Honduran Independence Day! We marched in a parade on Wednesday with the elementary schools,

and it was a really good opportunity for everyone in the city to learn about the mission. I know they have at least heard of Mission Upright, and seen the mission vehicles, and employees all over the city. The parade gave everyone a chance to learn what we're working towards here in western Honduras.





Girls' Group

Girls group has officially started. On Saturdays, I invite all the girls in the youth group (there are about 15) to come to my house at 4:15, spend some time sharing about our weeks, Ruth or I lead a quick devotional/bible study, and then we serve them dinner. We've had three meetings; the first one was September 9, and it went well. The two girls pictured with Ruth and I came! After our meeting, we went to play soccer with some friends from church which was a blast! I felt the need to start this girls group because the youth group is hugely majority boys, and most of them live at the Moses project where they get spiritual guidance and lots of attention from mentors. Most of the girls in the youth group are in single parent homes, don't have any spiritual mentors, and have way more responsibilities, stress and pain than they should deal with. For the past few months, whenever I spend time with God I feel a huge pressure to reach out to these girls, to give them a safe place to relax and some spiritual mentorship. To be the person they can come to when they're upset. So for me, even if two girls only ever come, that will not stop me from trying to create deep relationships with the others. I appreciate prayers for boldness, words when I have none, and insight to learn about their lives. I have been considering that transportation is part of the problem of why so few girls are coming, and am trying to find a viable solution. Please continue to pray for the youth group girls here in Santa Rosa, and for Ruth and I as we seek to grow closer to them.



Soccer

Ruth and I joined a ladies soccer team! One of the ladies in our women's small group, Carmen, invited us to her team's soccer practice September 20, and they invited us to join the team! Unfortunately, at the very first practice I sprained my ankle. I'm really excited about this team, not only because I love soccer, but because its an amazing opportunity for us to interact with nonchristian women and

teenage girls who need Jesus. I'm pretty bummed about my ankle, because I won't be able to play for the whole month of October if I want it to heal and not injure myself further. I plan to just go to practices and games to be a part of the team. Please pray for my ankle to heal, and this potential outreach opportunity.

Ajagual

The earthquakes in Mexico and rains from hurricanes have affected all the way to here in Honduras, and there was a road made impassable and more than 100 houses have been completely destroyed in Ajagual due to the fault line. The government has deemed the area unlivable, and hundreds of families are now having to relocate. This damage meant that the Christians in Corquin, who were all baptized in the last few months, could not come to



church services here in Santa Rosa for the month of September. It also meant that DESEO couldn't go on Fridays to the four schools where we teach in Corquin. Fortunately, the Bridges and Kenan and Donnie were prepared to hold crowded church services in their home, and able to continue their daily work of evangelizing and studying with new Christians there. This disaster gave us a few opportunities to serve as well. Friday September 15 we didn't have work and used our free day to go out to Ajagual and pass out food and water to those who lost their homes or who were working

to try to make the road passable. On Sunday the 24th the church held a special contribution to buy supplies for the families in Ajagual, Saturday the 30th the youth group put together care packages with the purchased supplies, and Sunday the 1st of October the entire church went to pass out the care packages and pray. It was beautiful to see the church learning to serve and take care of each other instead of just depending on the mission or government to solve the problem.

In Conclusion

Like I said, we are super busy. The last week of September, we had plans all day every day. We could fill every single second of our time, which is a blessing because it means that Hondurans have started to let us into their lives, and that God has given us the eyes to see the things we can do. The downside is that we are exhausted, and no downtime turns your brain into mush. We absolutely take advantage of our two hour lunch breaks and take naps when we don't have other plans. We're learning to cherish moments alone with God on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and rare moments throughout the week.



Much love

Hannah Baker